(d) Does not arise.

Strengthening of NH-52

511. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any project to construct a bridge over the river near district jail at Mangaldoi on NH-52 in Assam; and

(b) whether Government would consider the project to strengthen the NH-52 to be able to bear traffic intensity after the completion of Bogibil rail-cum-road bridge over Brahmaputra river?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. Construction of a bridge near Mangaldoi on NH-52 has been sanctioned for an amount of Rs. 4.24 crore.

(b) Yes, Sir. The stretch from Baihata Charali to Banderdewa is identified for four laning under National Highways Development Project (NHDP)-III for which preparation of Detailed Project-Reports (DPRs) has been taken up by National Highways Authority of India. The stretches from North Lakhimpur to Jonai and from Dirak to Rupai in Assam have been identified for widening to two lanes with paved shoulders under Phase 'A' of Special Accelerated Road Development Programme-North East (SARDP-NE), which is already approved by the Government on 22.09.2005 for implementation. The work of widening to two lanes from Jonai to Dirak in Arunachal Pradesh has been approved by the Government for preparation of Detailed Project Reports under Phase 'B' of SARDP-NE. For these projects identified under SARDP-NE, Border Roads Organization (BRO) has been asked to prepare DPRs.

Revival of domestic shipping industry

512. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, of late many shipping companies in India are moving out of the country due to a high-tax shipping regime comprising of 12 different taxes/levies;